

TRIBUTE TO ANNE BREHM OF  
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

**HON. DENNIS MOORE**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 17, 2006*

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, as Memorial Day approaches, I want to take a moment to bring to the attention of the House of Representatives the noteworthy contribution of Anne Brehm of Kansas City, Kansas, to the Women in Military Service for America Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Originally attributed to an "unknown Army nurse," a quotation inscribed on the memorial site recently was attributed to World War II Air Force nurse Anne Sosh Brehm, who wrote it in a 1990 letter to retired Brig. Gen. Wilma Vaught, USAF, the foundation president for the memorial. The circumstances of her correspondence, and the recent attribution of the quote to Anne Brehm are recounted in a recent article from *The Leaven*, which I am including with this statement. Mrs. Brehm's quote, which will be properly attributed to her at a Memorial Day ceremony at the memorial later this month, is as follows:

"Let the generations know that the women in uniform also guaranteed their freedom; that our resolve was as great as the brave men who stood among us; and with victory our hearts were just as full and beat just as fast as theirs, that the tears fell just as hard for those we left behind us."

[From *The Leaven*, Nov. 11, 2005]

LET THE GENERATIONS KNOW—SACRED HEART  
PARISHIONER EARNED PLACE IN WORLD WAR  
II HISTORY

(By Bob Hart)

KANSAS CITY, KS—For years it was an anonymous quote, attributed to an "unknown Army nurse" at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial in Washington, D.C.:

"Let the generations know that the women in uniform also guaranteed their Freedom; that our resolve was as great as the brave men who stood among us; and with victory our hearts were just as full and beat as fast as theirs, that tears fell just as hard for those we left behind us."

Every so often, Anne Brehm, a parishioner of Sacred Heart Church in Kansas City, Kan., would hear of the quote, and think to herself, "I said that." Typically modest the former World War II Army nurse did nothing about it.

"For 15 years, I just let it go," Brehm said. Things changed this past August when Brehm received a phone call from retired Brig. Gen. Wilma L. Vaught, USAF, foundation president for the memorial. Years earlier, Brehm had written the brigadier general to register for the memorial and had included the quote in the comments.

Vaught had been using it in speeches for years and had passed it on for inscription in a panel at the memorial itself, overlooking the pool. Unfortunately, she had long since misplaced Brehm's letter and could not remember whose words she was quoting.

As fate would have it, Vaught found Brehm's letter shortly before she was scheduled to speak at an American veterans of World War II convention in Kansas City, Mo., late this past summer. The rest, as they say, is history.

WHERE THE ACTION WAS

Gary, Ind., native Anne Sosh was just 22 and fresh out of nursing school in 1943 when

she enlisted in the Second Air Force—incurring the playful wrath of her four brothers, who were all in the Navy.

"I betrayed my family," Brehm said, laughing in the kitchen of the Kansas City home in which she's lived for 50 years. "But the Navy didn't send their nurses overseas, and I wanted to be where the action was."

She got her wish.

She spent time in Bombay, India, where she was "in awe" at seeing Mahatma Gandhi; in Burma, where she saw Gen. Joseph Stilwell on the Ledo Road; and finally in China, where she got to know Gen. Claire Chennault and members of his famed Flying Tigers—many of whom were patients in the 172nd General Hospital where Brehm served.

She was still in China when the A-bomb was dropped. Chinese nationalists and Communists took up their fight, and the nurses were told to quickly leave the country.

They grabbed what pictures and other belongings they could, leaving behind 20 of their own—nurses and good friends who had been killed in a plane crash in Burma.

Brehm was first sent back to India. With the promise of her choice of hospitals, she re-enlisted and requested Topeka General, stateside, with a secret ulterior motive: She was dating a young man she'd met overseas, Dick Brehm from Mission.

She would marry Dick Brehm and raise two children—son Alan and daughter Susie. She would also continue her nursing career until 1990, right about the time she heard about the memorial being built in Washington, D.C., to honor female veterans.

Ann Brehm picked up her pen and wrote, in her letter to Vaught, what would become a very famous quote.

"FOR ALL OF US"

"I was very moved by your words," Vaught told Brehm on the phone last August. "I've used them in hundreds and hundreds of speeches over the years."

The general invited Brehm to join her at the American veterans of World War II convention at Crown Center, where she would finally be identified as the writer of the quote that had been on display in the nation's capital for 15 years.

"I was introduced and spoke," Brehm said. "I have no idea what I said."

Brehm was greeted warmly by her fellow veterans, many of whom thanked her for the words that had moved them when they visited the memorial. Although the revelation that she is the woman who wrote "let the generations know" has brought her a certain level of celebrity, she treasures one clipping above all: a short article in her church bulletin written by her pastor, Father Michael Hermes, whom she calls "my archangel."

The memorial will soon change the inscription from "Author, unknown Army nurse" to properly credit 1st Lt. Ann Sosh Brehm. She thinks that's nice, but not such a big deal.

"We had a camaraderie you just don't find in civilian life," she said, recalling her fellow nurses, many long since gone. "What I said was for all of us, I don't need any credit."

TRIBUTE TO MR. DEAN J. UTEGG

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 17, 2006*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Dean J. Utegg, a lifelong resident of Chautauqua County and a truly remarkable man.

DEAN J. UTEGG

[May 9, 2006]

Dean J. Utegg, 35, of 24 Maple Ave., Ripley died on Monday, May 8, 2006 at Select Spe-

cialty Hospital after a lengthy illness due to diabetes.

He was born on April 18, 1971, in Erie, to Fred L. Utegg of Ripley, and the late Joan L. Rizzo Utegg (1990).

He was a lifetime resident of Ripley, where he graduated from Ripley Central High School, and attended the State University at Fredonia.

He presently served as Ripley town supervisor and as district treasurer of Chautauqua Lake Central School, until recent retirement due to illness. He was also formerly employed at Mellon Bank in Erie for several years, and served as chairman of the Ripley and Chautauqua Democratic Committees, and was a former member of the Chautauqua Young Democrats. He also served as secretary for the Saturday Night Bowling League.

He was a member of St. Thomas More Church in Ripley and the Brotherhood of St. Joseph in North East. He loved bowling, golfing and was an avid true Cleveland Browns fan.

Besides his father, he is survived by his partner, Jai Trippy of Ripley; brothers: Stephen C. Utegg and his wife, Linda, and Mark A. Utegg and his wife, Lisa, both of North East, Pa.; sister, Belinda Mulholland and her husband, Timothy of Dewittville; several nieces and nephews, whom he was very close to; several aunts and uncles; and his friend, Miniature Dachshund, Brownie.

Friends may call at the William D. Elkin Funeral Home, 65 South Lake St., North East on Wednesday 7 to 9 p.m. and Thursday 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m., and are invited to attend prayer services on Friday at 9:45 a.m. at the funeral home, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:30 a.m. at St. Gregory. Interment St. Gregory Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the American Diabetes Association, Pittsburgh Office, 300 Penn Center Blvd., Suite 602, Pittsburgh, Pa., 15235 or Ripley Hose Co., Ripley, NY., 14775.

Dean was a man who fully understood how to live life to its fullest and that, Mr. Speaker, is why I rise to honor him today.

HONORING ED WARNER

**HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 17, 2006*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor a good friend and constituent, Mr. Ed Warner of Hampton Bays, New York, who recently passed away at the age of 80.

As a native of Hampton Bays and a fifth generation bayman, Mr. Warner knew more than just about anyone concerning the town's history and its people. He was highly admired for his kindness, generosity and steadfast advocacy for Southampton, its residents and its unique environment.

Born in 1925, Ed grew up in Hampton Bays developing a keen sense of loyalty and pride for his hometown. After serving in the Navy during the Second World War, he returned home and worked as a bayman, catching fish that he sold to the local market. Ed knew the best places to catch fish, how to catch the most fish and where to dig for the largest clams.

Ed put his knowledge of the sea to work as a member of the Southampton Board of Trustees. He excelled on this governing body that monitored the town's waterways, serving 27 years through 13 re-elections.